

Abstract of the Disclosure

An optimizing planer system includes a control system; a workpiece feed path; and, an optimizing planer. The optimizing planer is operably coupled to the control system.

5 The optimizing planer is located along the workpiece feed path and has an entrance, for receipt of a rough workpiece, and an exit, for discharge of an at least partially finished workpiece. The optimizing planer includes a cutting element. A workpiece interrogator is situated along the workpiece feed path, upstream of the entrance. The interrogator is operably coupled to the control system so to provide the control system with workpiece property information for each

10 workpiece entering the optimizing planer. The control system provides the optimizing planer with control information based upon the workpiece property information for each workpiece. The optimizing planer is constructed to move at least one of the workpiece and the cutting element as the workpiece passes through the optimizing planer according to the control information for each workpiece.